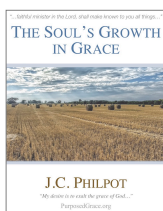


# SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

**August 19th, 2018**

“The LORD will give  
strength unto HIS people;  
the LORD will bless HIS  
people with peace.”

(PSALM 29:11)



*New on our bookshelf... J.C. Philpot*

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**Sunday mornings at 10 am & 11 am,  
and Wednesdays evenings at 7 pm**

Services in Spanish every Sunday evening at 6 pm

## **Nursery**

*Nursery available for 4 years old and younger*

## **Happy Birthday!**

**Jonathan Vela - 24th, Desta Richards - 25th**

**This evening's podcast will be from our PASTOR**

**HEBREWS 3:7-19 — UNBELIEF**

Recorded on Wednesday evening, April 19th, 2017

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

## **HE IS FAITHFUL THAT PROMISED**

“GIVING THANKS ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS UNTO GOD AND THE FATHER IN THE  
NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST”

(EPHESIANS 5:20)

A pastor was talking to the mother of a little girl who had just recovered from a near-fatal illness. The woman said, “Wasn’t God good to give us back our child?” The minister was about to voice his agreement when an arresting thought entered his mind. The woman was surprised when he answered, “Yes, but would not God have been just as good, or just as kind, if your child had not been spared?” The mother hesitated. Her face clouded over. At last, though half-heartedly and without conviction, she conceded that her pastor was right.

It takes an unshakable confidence in the wisdom, power, and love of God to give “*thanks always for all things*” (EPHESIANS 5:20). This does not mean we delight in pain and suffering. We simply cling to His unchanging attributes. It’s easy to be happy when everything seems to be going our way. We readily express thanks to God when we receive the things we desire. But there’s often an opposite response when we find ourselves in adverse situations and our heavenly Father does not grant our requests. The trusting child of God, however, learns to praise the Lord in every circumstance.

Romans 8:28 has become so familiar to many of us that we sometimes fail to appreciate it. But it's a comforting truth that *"all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose"* (ROMANS 8:28).

*Thanks for thorns as well as roses  
Thanks for weakness and for health  
Thanks for clouds as well as sunshine  
Thanks for poverty and wealth!*

PASTOR TODD NIBERT

## WHAT FAITH DOES AND DOES NOT DO

"BUT OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO OF GOD IS MADE UNTO US WISDOM,  
AND RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SANCTIFICATION, AND REDEMPTION"

(1 CORINTHIANS 1:30)

Christ's redemptive atonement effectually secured the salvation of God's elect, which we receive through faith.

[Beloved,] faith does not *justify* us. Christ is our *Justification*. But faith receives it. Faith does not *sanctify* us. Christ is our *Sanctification*. But faith receives it. Faith does not *redeem* us. Christ is our *Redemption*. But faith receives it. Faith is not the instrument by which *salvation* is accomplished. Christ is our *Salvation*. But faith is the channel through which *salvation* flows into our souls. And this faith is the blood bought gift of Christ to His elect, redeemed people.

PASTOR PETER MENEY

## BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

"BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH;  
AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD"

(EPHESIANS 2:8)

Faith is the means of Grace. It is the only means of grace. Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. To make anything else a means of grace is to have a works gospel. Whatever is not of faith is sin.

So where does that leave *the* Preaching of the gospel, Prayer, Worship, the Lord's Table, the fellowship of the saints, Scripture? These things are means to faith. Thank God for them. He uses them to give faith. When True faith comes through these means, it does not rest its hope in the means. It rests completely in the glorious person and finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is given to us by God's free and sovereign grace.

PASTOR GREG ELMQUIST

## GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE!

“AND HE SAID UNTO ME, IT IS DONE. I AM ALPHA AND OMEGA, THE BEGINNING AND THE END. I WILL GIVE UNTO HIM THAT IS ATHIRST OF THE FOUNTAIN OF THE WATER OF LIFE FREELY” (REVELATION 21:6)

I recently read a quote from a famous preacher of the 1800's. He said that the world has not seen what God could do with one man completely devoted to Him. I thought, “Well, I know what God can do with a rebellious and angry prophet (Jonah): bring an entire pagan city (Nineveh) to its knees in repentance.” On the one hand, I understand the value of a devoted heart. On the other hand, I do not want to give the impression that God is helped by us—that He is in need of something we provide. Our dedication to God must arise, not from hope of doing great things for God, but from a realization of what great things He has already done for us.

PASTOR JOE TERRELL

### Now

“BUT NOW IN CHRIST JESUS YE WHO SOMETIMES WERE FAR OFF ARE MADE NIGH BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.” (EPHESIANS 2:13)

To you who *now* believe on Christ, remember you were once ruined, you were once without Christ “*dead in trespasses and sins*” (EPH. 2:1)

To you who *now* believe on Christ, remember you are *now* redeemed *in Christ Jesus and made nigh by the blood of Christ* (EPH. 2:13).

To you who *now* believe on Christ, remember you are *now* reconciled. Christ has reconciled both Jew and Gentile unto God in one body by the cross, He has through the sacrifice of Himself purged all our sins (EPHESIANS 2:16). And so, now, God dwells in all believers, who have become the temple of the living God through the operations of the blessed Spirit. Christ dwelling in them *now* is the earnest of their inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. (EPH. 1:14)

Our Heavenly Father shall *cause* all His people to trust His beloved Son with all of their salvation “*That we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory!*” AMEN! (EPH. 1:12-14).

PASTOR